



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 09/973,862  
Applicant : Kelly G. AMMANN et al.  
Filed : October 11, 2001  
TC/A.U. : 1634  
Examiner : Frank Wei Min Lu  
  
Docket No. : 2599-104-D4  
Customer No. : 6449  
Confirmation No. : 8811

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

**MS - DD**

Director of the United States Patent  
and Trademark Office  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicant submits herewith information that the Office may wish to consider in examination of the subject application. Materials submitted for consideration are listed on the attached form PTO/SB/08. Copies of the US patent documents listed on the PTO/SB/08 are attached.

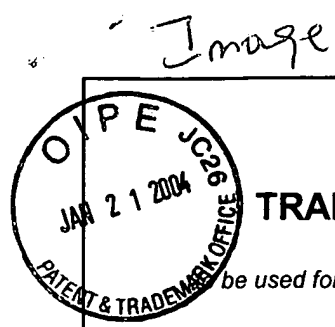
This statement is being filed after the three-month filing date of the above-captioned application but before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits and therefore no fee is being submitted herewith.

Respectfully submitted,

By

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Attorney for Applicants  
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Date: January 21, 2004  
2599-104-D4.IDS.wpd



1634

<b>TRANSMITTAL FORM</b> <i>(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)</i>	<b>Complete if Known</b>	
	Application No.	09/973,862
	Filing Date	October 11, 2001
	First Named Inventor	Kelly G. AMMANN
	Group Art Unit	1634
	Examiner Name	Frank Wei Min Lu
Total Number of Pages in This Submission _____	Attorney Docket No.	2599-104-D4
	Customer No.	6449
ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)	Confirmation No.	8811

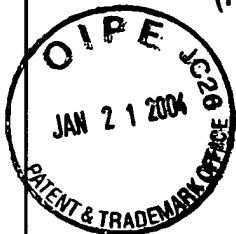
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form                                | <input type="checkbox"/> Assignment Papers  | <input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group                            |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply                                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers                                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> After Final   | <input type="checkbox"/> Petition   | <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s)                           | <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application               | <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request                           | <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below):            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer  | 1. PTO/SB/08 Form  |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)              | <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s)  |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application   |   |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53 |   |  |

REMARKS:

SUBMITTED BY		Complete (if applicable)			
NAME AND REG. NUMBER	Richard Wydeven, Reg. No. 39,881				
SIGNATURE		DATE	1/21/04	DEPOSIT ACCT USER ID	02-2135

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT  
(PTO/SB/08)**



*Complete if Known*

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Confirmation No.

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**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY
		Number	Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)		
	1	6,277,332	B1	SUCHOLEIKI	08-21-2001
	2	6,517,782	B1	HORNER et al.	02-11-2003
	3	6,517,783	B2	HORNER et al.	02-11-2003

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee of Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	T <sup>6</sup>
		Office <sup>3</sup> Code	Number <sup>4</sup>	Kind <sup>5</sup> (if known)			

Examiner  
Signature

Date  
Considered

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup>Unique citation designation number. <sup>2</sup>See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. <sup>3</sup>Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code. <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language translation is attached. AB indicates that only an English language abstract is attached.